

50X1-HUM

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT		50X1-HUM
SUBJECT	Hoof and Mouth Disease Research at the Friedrich Loeffler Institute on Riems Island	DATE DISTR.	17 Nov. 1953	
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1	50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT		
		REFERENCES		

**BY CABLE**

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Professor Gottfried Pyl of the Friedrich Loeffler Institute on Riems Island has not succeeded in crystallizing the hoof and mouth disease virus. No animal virus has ever been crystallized at Riems by Pyl or by any other scientist.
2. Pyl is not working on animal virus crystallization but he shares the general interest in this problem which is recognized as of crucial importance.
3. Neither Pyl nor any of his colleagues have isolated a new mutation of the hoof and mouth disease virus by ultrasonic treatment or by any other treatment. No type of hoof and mouth disease virus other than the three well-known types is known at Riems.
4. Professor Pyl is working on the following:
  - a. The purification of the hoof and mouth disease virus. The results do not go beyond the results reached  and published in scientific literature.
  - b. The chemical research for hoof and mouth disease.
  - c. The biochemical investigation of substances infected with hoof and mouth disease virus for tracing chemical changes brought about in the substance by the virus.
5. Generally speaking, the interest at Riems is centered on growing the virus in permanent form by a great number of passages from cattle to mouse and vice versa. This is successfully performed but does not go beyond the results reached in the West.
6. The ultrasonic treatment on a laboratory scale was used neither for crystallisation nor for mutation, but for the weakening of the vitality of the hoof and mouth disease virus to be used for the production of vaccine, in the same way as chemicals are used for this purpose. The ultrasonic treatment is not in use at the present time.

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